



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Hazard Tree Removal / Training		
PROJECT LOCATION	Forest Lawn Scout Reservation, Lake Arrowhead, CA	COUNTY	San Bernardino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Glenn Barley	PHONE	(909) 881-6900
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino, CA 92405		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Forest Lawn Scout Reservation (herein referred to as Forest Lawn) is owned and operated by the Boy Scout Council of Los Angeles. The property is located east of Lake Arrowhead, CA and west of Running Springs, CA. The total proposed project area is 421 acres; however the total area that will be impacted is 130 acres. The property is heavily utilized for a variety of recreational uses, including but not limited to hiking and site seeing. In the early 2000's, Forest Lawn and the surrounding areas suffered severe tree mortality due to bark beetle infestations. In 2003, much of Forest Lawn was burned by the Old Fire resulting in additional tree mortality and four years later the Slide Fire burned portions of the property yet again. The combined result of these damaging agents is the presence of many standing dead trees that are in various stages of decay, and over time, in danger of structural failure. Given the primary use of Forest Lawn is for recreational purposes, it is important that these trees be felled intentionally under controlled conditions, to reduce the threat to public safety. The project as proposed has two objectives. The first is to improve public safety by felling the trees under controlled conditions. The second is to use the felling of the trees as a training opportunity for those being certified as a C-Faller. The trainee's will be felling 80 dead trees (24" DBH or greater). The equipment to be used will be chainsaws only. No heavy equipment is planned for this project. Once the trees are felled, the branches will be lopped and scattered on-site and the bole of the tree will remain where it fell.

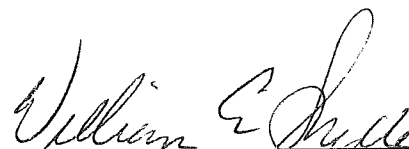
EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 § 15304. Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The project as described above fits the description of the Categorical Exemption "15304. Minor Alterations to Land." CEQA describes this exemption as "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes." This project as proposed will only remove dead trees that pose a threat to public safety. CAL FIRE staff have conducted a limited environmental review to ensure that no exceptions exist that would preclude the use of this exemption. The Department has concluded that no significant adverse impacts to air, water biological or cultural resources will occur and that greenhouse gas emissions will be less than significant.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING


William E. Snyder, Deputy Director
4/1/10
Date

